



**CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR
2018 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Cameryn M. Hoeft	Project Number 38417
Project Title How Does HydroGel Affect the Mortality and Yield of Plants?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals The objective was to test the effects soil additives have on plants. Methods/Materials 6 tomato plants, 6 pots, fertilizer, HydroGel, grow lights, controlled environment, soil saturation meter. Monitor the effects that soil additives had on moisture level, plant health, and crop yield on tomato plants. Results The results of the experiment proved that the plants with the HydroGel and fertilizer retained water and had the most growth in simulated drought conditions. Conclusions/Discussion My conclusion is that both HydroGel and fertilizer should be used when growing crops.	
Summary Statement If I include HydroGel into the soil of a plant, the moisture retention and plant yield will increase.	
Help Received Parents helped with providing equipment, Scott Mecom (manager of Creasorb Industries-Stockosorb HydroGel) for providing the HydroGel beads	